

*Briefings*

NRO and OSD review(s) completed.

[Redacted]

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15 OCT 1967

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The Honorable John S. Foster, Jr.  
Director of Defense Research and Engineering  
Department of Defense  
Room 3E1006  
Pentagon  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Johnny:

This letter will confirm and expand on the arrangements I have made to provide you with an over-all picture of the Agency's activities. The dates indicated below were provided by your office, but the scheduling of topics is mine. If you would like to re-order them or modify them, please let me know.

On Wednesday, 20 October, from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m., Jack Ledford and company will describe the CIA covert manned overflight programs. These focus primarily on the U-2 and OXCART operations, but we will also touch on the ISINGLASS proposal with which Harold was familiar and upon which the Government ought to make a decision sometime soon. This is a major part of the NRO budget and one which you will presumably be called upon to defend. In line with your request for such budget information, I have placed this first.

On Friday, 22 October, between 4:30 - 6:00 p.m., we will go through the CIA satellite reconnaissance programs. John Crowley will describe the history of CORONA and the participation of the Agency in the program. We will also discuss the current status of the advanced search system [Redacted]

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[redacted] Members  
of your staff have been anxious to brief you [redacted]  
[redacted] and I suggested that our  
satellite office invite them to the same briefing  
so that we can [redacted] Because time is  
short, I will try to fill in the rest of DD/S&T as  
the shirttail on the Wednesday and Friday brief-  
ings, so that the following sessions can be devoted  
to the other parts of the Agency.

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The preparation and coordination of National Intelligence Estimates is one of the most important responsibilities that CIA and the Director bear, and they will probably play an important role in the weapon system decisions you must make. I thought it would be very helpful to have Sherman Kent, who is Chairman of the Board of National Estimates, describe to you the process by which such estimates are created and their limitations and strengths. I have booked this for Friday, 29 October, between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m., and believe that you will find it a most interesting session.

The DD/I will be covered on 2 November, between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. This is the overt side of the house concerned with current intelligence, basic intelligence, economic evaluations, reference services, photo interpretation and the like.

One of the other major responsibilities of the Director is the coordination of community intelligence activities. In fact, some of the most important components in the intelligence community report directly to you (NSA) or come under your budgetary control [redacted] I have arranged a session on Wednesday, 10 November, with John Bross and [redacted] to describe the coordination of national intelligence programs, and the steps that we are taking to try to bring the whole thing together. John Bross is the Deputy Director for National Intelligence Program Evaluation and is the DCI agent for community coordination. [redacted] is the CIA SIGINT Officer and the chairman of the USIB SIGINT Committee which levels requirements on NSA and reviews the CCP.

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I shall plan to join you for all of these sessions as the Director asked me to ensure that they fully meet your needs. I would suggest that we do them here at the Agency so that other people can be brought into our small meetings if needed and so that your telephone does not trim down the already short time. I am looking forward to these sessions and the chance it affords to introduce you thoroughly to CIA.

Sincerely,

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Albert D. Wheelon  
Deputy Director

cc: Admiral W. F. Raborn  
Mr. Richard Helms

Distribution:

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5 - Mr. Bross  
6 - Mr. Kent  
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8 - Mr. Karamessines  
9 - Mr. Cline  
10 - Mr. R. J. Smith  
11 - Gen. Ledford  
12 - Mr. Crowley  
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